



"Betty.L..Davenport"@fakeaddress.net on 10/17/2001 08:03:54 PM

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---> Commentors Name: Mrs. Betty L. Davenport  
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---> Position: Member  
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--> Comment Text :  
I support a recommendation by Secretary of Energy to President George Bush that Yucca Mountain is suitable as the Nation's high-level radioactive waste repository. Storing high level radioactive waste at one location is a much better option than continuing to store this waste above ground throughout the Nation.

In 1982, the Nuclear Waste Fund was established to receive payments from electricity consumers, with the legal commitment that DOE would begin taking spent fuel from utilities by 1/31/98. Even though three federal courts have reaffirmed that DOE has a legal obligation to accept spent fuel, DOE has not accepted any. Consumers of nuclear generated electricity have already committed \$16 billion to the Nuclear Waste Fund to pay for a repository. DOE has already spent \$3.6 billion at Yucca Mountain, Nuclear utilities have also spent large sums of money to re-rack fuel storage basins, and prepare or start to store fuel above ground in large storage casks.

I still believe the best solution for our Nation is the recycling of used nuclear fuel (e.g., pyro-processing developed by Argonne National Laboratory West) and separation of long half life transuranic isotopes for recycle from short half life isotopes for disposal at an underground repository.

No matter whether our Nation revives recycling or stays with the wasteful once through concept for nuclear fuel, a repository is needed for the radioactive byproducts of these processes. Yucca Mountain appears to be the acceptable solution for the Nation's repository. Now, the greatest challenges appear to be social and political, of which the next step is a recommendation by Secretary of Energy to President George Bush that Yucca Mountain is suitable as the Nation's high-level radioactive waste repository.

It's time to make this decision and get this storage site in action.

Betty L. Davenport

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